

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 19, 2013

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2013–14 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 735

Introduced by Assembly Member Gomez

February 21, 2013

An act to add Chapter 10.5 (commencing with Section 5845) to Division 5 of the Public Resources Code, relating to the Los Angeles River.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 735, as amended, Gomez. Los Angeles—~~River~~. *River Rehabilitation Project.*

Existing law, the Los Angeles County Flood Control Act, establishes the Los Angeles County Flood Control District and authorizes the district to control and conserve the flood, storm, and other wastewater of the district. Under existing law, the act includes in the objects and purposes of the district to provide for public use of navigable waterways under the district's control that are suitable for recreational and educational purposes, when these purposes are not inconsistent with the use thereof by the district for flood control and water conservation. *Existing law also establishes various plans and programs intended to preserve, protect, and rehabilitate lands adjacent to rivers in the state.*

~~This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to implement the provisions contained within the Los Angeles River Master Plan in order to maintain the river as a resource that provides flood protection and opportunities for recreational and environmental enhancement, improves the aesthetics of the region, enriches the quality of life for residents, and helps sustain the economy of the region, until July 1, 2020, require the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency to~~

establish a Los Angeles River Rehabilitation Project policy committee, which would include members of appropriate public agencies, nonprofits, stakeholders, developers, cities, and environmental organizations to assist in the development and rehabilitation of the Los Angeles River. The bill would require that the secretary collaborate with and establish a cooperative working relationship with public agencies that are affected by the project and consider all existing Los Angeles River rehabilitation plans in effect in implementing actions pursuant to the provisions of the bill. The bill would require that the Natural Resources Agency use existing state resources and available federal funds to implement the provisions of the bill and would authorize the agency to apply for and accept grants, donations, and other financial support from public or private sources for purposes of those provisions.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~-yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. (a) The Legislature hereby finds and declares
- 2 all of the following:
- 3 (1) A Los Angeles River Rehabilitation Project would foster job
- 4 creation by investing in parks and multiuse public trails.
- 5 (2) The Los Angeles River Rehabilitation Project would improve
- 6 the conditions of daily life along the river in a safe environment
- 7 that promotes walking, jogging, biking, recreation, and living
- 8 along the Los Angeles River.
- 9 (3) The Los Angeles River Rehabilitation Project would directly
- 10 improve the quality of life in Los Angeles by providing important
- 11 recreational, open-space, wildlife, flood-management,
- 12 water-quality, and urban waterfront revitalization benefits to
- 13 communities.
- 14 (4) The Los Angeles River Rehabilitation Project would foster
- 15 livable communities through placemaking that provides public
- 16 amenities, links communities, reduces residential segregation, and
- 17 facilitates healthy behaviors.
- 18 (5) The Los Angeles River Rehabilitation Project would support
- 19 linkages to community and economic development similar to other
- 20 transit oriented developments.
- 21 (b) It is therefore the intent of the Legislature in enacting
- 22 Chapter 10.5 (commencing with Section 5845) of Division 5 of the

1 *Public Resources Code to support rehabilitation and development*
2 *along the Los Angeles River.*

3 *SEC. 2. Chapter 10.5 (commencing with Section 5845) is added*
4 *to Division 5 of the Public Resources Code, to read:*

5
6 *CHAPTER 10.5. THE LOS ANGELES RIVER REHABILITATION*
7 *PROJECT*
8

9 *5845. (a) For purposes of this chapter, “agency” means the*
10 *Natural Resources Agency.*

11 *(b) For purposes of this chapter, “secretary” means the*
12 *Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency.*

13 *5845.1. (a) The secretary shall establish a Los Angeles River*
14 *Rehabilitation Project policy committee, which shall include*
15 *representatives from appropriate agencies, nonprofits,*
16 *stakeholders, developers, cities, and environmental organization,*
17 *to assist in the development and rehabilitation of the Los Angeles*
18 *River.*

19 *(b) The secretary shall collaborate with and establish a*
20 *cooperative working relationship with public agencies that are*
21 *affected by the project, and shall consider all existing Los Angeles*
22 *River rehabilitation plans in effect pursuant to subdivision (a) of*
23 *Section 5753 in implementing actions pursuant to this chapter.*

24 *5845.2. The agency shall use existing state resources and*
25 *available federal funds to implement this chapter. If state or federal*
26 *funds are not available or sufficient, the office may apply for and*
27 *accept grants and receive donations and other financial support*
28 *from public or private sources for purposes of these sections.*

29 *5845.3. This chapter shall become inoperative on July 1, 2020.*

30 ~~*SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to enact*~~
31 ~~*legislation to implement the provisions contained within the Los*~~
32 ~~*Angeles River Master Plan in order to maintain the river as a*~~
33 ~~*resource that provides flood protection and opportunities for*~~
34 ~~*recreational and environmental enhancement, improves the*~~
35 ~~*aesthetics of the region, enriches the quality of life for residents,*~~
36 ~~*and helps sustain the economy of the region.*~~